

ANNEX H

POLICE SERVICES

A. PURPOSE

In an emergency situation, the law enforcement personnel maintained by the political subdivisions for day-to-day operations may prove to be inadequate. The West Virginia State Police is responsible for law enforcement, traffic control, and coordination in handling mass casualties and victim identification during emergencies and disasters requiring implementation of this plan. These functions are normally the responsibility of the State Police within assigned jurisdictions and are basically unchanged except to require intensified effort at the emergency/disaster scene and in support of the recovery effort.

B. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

1. The West Virginia State Police render assistance to municipal and county governmental agencies or any other agency or agencies to alleviate suffering, restore and maintain law and order, protect life and property, and provide support in the event of natural or man-made emergencies and disasters.
2. The Superintendent of the West Virginia State Police coordinates the police services operations of his department and supporting agencies, and maintains liaison with the Director, Office of Emergency Services throughout the emergency and recovery operations.
3. Temporary road closures due to winter storm conditions may be authorized only by one of the following State officials or their designated alternates: the Governor, the Superintendent of the State Police, and the Commissioner of the Division of Highways.
4. The following state agencies provide support to the State Police:
 - a. Division of Natural Resources

Supplemental law enforcement personnel when requested by the Superintendent.
 - b. Adjutant General Department

Supplementary National Guard personnel when activated by the Governor. Air Guard has arresting authority; Army Guard is not bonded.

c. Division of Highways

Personnel and equipment upon request by the Superintendent for traffic control.

d. State Medical Examiners Office

Assistance for victim identification and support in accordance with state laws in handling disaster-related deaths.

5. The West Virginia State Police Emergency Plan serves as a guide for police services during emergencies. This plan is maintained and exercised at least annually by the Department of Public Safety.
6. Communications for provision of police services in an emergency situation are provided through the State Police Radio and Teletype Network. Additional communications information is located in Annex C, Communications.
7. Responsibilities of the State Police for evacuation and warning are found respectively in Annexes E and B of this plan.
8. The Superintendent, West Virginia State Police, or his designated representative, coordinate police services as a member of the Emergency Operations Center, when the Center is activated.

C. TASK ASSIGNMENTS

1. State

- a. The West Virginia State Police provide police services when requested by local authorities when an emergency situation is beyond local capability or upon request of the Director, Office of Emergency Services.
- b. The Division of Natural Resources, Adjutant General Department, Division of Highways and Department of Health and Human Resources support the West Virginia State Police in providing police services.

2. Federal

The Federal Bureau of Investigation provides victim identification assistance to the State Police when requested to do so by the Superintendent.

D. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

1. West Virginia Code, Chapter 15, Article 5, Sections 6 and 12, as amended
2. West Virginia State Police Emergency Plan
3. West Virginia Hazardous Materials Response Plan